

Winchester, NH Budget Committee Meeting Minutes for Tuesday September 14, 2021

The meeting was held at Winchester Town Hall.

Members Present: Brenden Hubbard, James Rokes Jr (School Board Representative) Jason Spaulding

Secretary: Kevin Bazan

Absent: Ben Kilanski

Also Present: Karey Miner, Lindseigh Picard, Nate Holmy, Natalie Quevedo,

Brenden called the meeting to order at 6PM.

There was discussion on approving the minutes from the previous meeting. It was decided that they should wait until Ben is present.

There was discussion on how to appoint the seat vacated by Tiffany Melanson. Jason said he would like to see the public show interest. James agreed with Jason.

There was discussion on how long the budget committee should accept letters of interest. Karey reminded the committee that the budget season starts in early October.

James made a motion to accept letters of interest for the position until September 24<sup>th</sup>. Jason seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0. The committee scheduled another meeting on Tuesday September 28<sup>th</sup> at 6PM to decide on who to appoint to the open seat.

There was discussion when the budget committee should meet to go over next year's budget. The committee discussed meeting every two weeks beginning October 5<sup>th</sup>. Karey mentioned that the committee usually schedules a Saturday meeting in November when all the town department heads attend. Jason would like to schedule that meeting as soon as possible.

There was a request for public comment. Brenden opened the floor for 15 minutes of public comment.

Nate Holmy asked how long the term would be for the open seat. Brenden responded that the term would go until the end of the upcoming budget season.

Lindseigh Picard would like to request that the budget committee attend the school board meetings on Thursdays when the school budget will be discussed. Brenden asked if there would be a seat at the table for budget committee members. Lindseigh- no.

Lindseigh advised the budget committee to look for candidates with budget experience when filling the open seat.

Kevin Bazan asked what the budget committee will be looking for in a candidate for the open seat. Brenden answered that they would be looking for someone without bias. Someone who will look at the budget and see where cuts can be made.

Natalie Quevedo commented that town committees are supposed to be non-bias and non-partisan. The budget committee should look for someone with experience.

Nate Holmy asked if candidates will be allowed to speak at the meeting on September 24<sup>th</sup>. Brenden responded that the board may have questions that candidates can answer.

James made a motion to adjourn. Jason seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0

The meeting ended at 6:15.

*approved 9/28/21*